

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /065 W

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R 221510Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2225

INFO USMISSION NATO

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

CINCEUR

CINCLANTFLT

CNO

USDELMC

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

NAVSUPPACT NAPLES

AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10562

E.W. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, IT

SUBJECT: HOMEPORTING IN ITALY - ROTATIONAL SUBSTITUTION

OF THE USS PIEDMONT

REFS: A) ROME 10563; B) STATE 167547; C) ROME 9546;

D) STATE 153295

1. JULY 18, 1975, FOLLOWING PRESENTATION MADE ON SUBSTITUTION
OF USS ALBANY FOR USS LITTLE ROCK (SEE REF A), EMBOFF EXPLAINED
ANALOGOUS CHANGE IN DESTROYER TENDER DEPLOYMENT PATTERN
DESIRED BY USN IN NAPLES WHICH WOULD COMMENCE WITH DEPARTURE
OF THE USS PIEDMONT AND DEPENDENTS.

2. MFA NATO OFFICE DIRECTOR SAID CHANGE POSED NO PROBLEM SO
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LONG AS NO DIRECT LOCAL NATIONAL EMPLOYEES OF THE US FORCE

IN NAPLES LOST THEIR JOBS BECAUSE OF IT. UPON BEING PROMISED THAT NONE WOULD BE FIRED AS RESULT OF THIS CHANGE, HE AGREED TO "HANDLE" IT AS A ROUTINE OPERATIONAL MATTER WHICH DID NOT REQUIRE FORMAL AGREEMENT OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE GOI. HE DID ASK THAT EMBASSY PROVIDE HIM WITH AN AIDE MEMOIRE SIMILAR TO THAT PRESENTED VIS-A-VIS THE USS ALBANY. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT WE NOTIFY THE ITALIAN NAVY.

3. MFA NATO OFFICE PRESENTED WITH AIDE MEMOIRE DRAWN FROM PARA 4 OF REF C WITH ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH TO THE EFFECT THAT INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL CHANGE IN DEPLOYMENT OF PIEDMONT WILL BE DECLASSIFIED IN LOW-KEY FASHION NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 1975. TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE BEING POUCHED TO EUR/WE AND CINCUSNAVEUR.

4. COMMENT: NATO OFFICE DIRECTOR WAS MOST CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE IMPACT ON NAPLES UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM. HE PLANS TO BRIEF NAPLES PREFECT AND ASSURE HIM THAT ADDITIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT WILL NOT RESULT FROM THIS CHANGE. HE WAS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT EFFECT ON LANDLORDS, WHOSE "PLIGHT" IS NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE. END COMMENT. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL SHIPS, HOMEPORING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME10562
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750253-0063
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750733/aaaabdug.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ROME 10563, 75 STATE 167547, 75 ROME 9546
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HOMEPORING IN ITALY - ROTATIONAL SUBSTITUTION OF THE USS PIEDMONT
TAGS: MARR, IT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006